

[From the Aberdeen Herald, September 30.]
TERMINATION OF THE ROYAL VISIT.

SHE leaves when Autumn wearie
 Bids Winter waste the plain;
 SHE looks on lands mair cheerie,
 Till ours are green again.
 Oh! would she dwell amang us,
 When dales are deep in snaw,
 Dour Winter couldna wrang us,
 Nor Simmer seem awa'.

W. THOM.

If these sweet lines, breathing the very soul of poetry, had been written for the occasion, they could not have expressed more faithfully than they do the feeling that prevails throughout this district at the present moment. Her Majesty's visit has, indeed, proved a season of sunshine, both literally and metaphorically; and as if to bear out the poet's idea, foul, wet, and foggy weather sets in on the very eve of her departure. Let us hope that the brightening rays which have been shed on our material prospects otherwise may not meet with an analogous interruption.

The citizens of Aberdeen, and the inhabitants of Deeside, have good grounds for congratulating themselves on the circumstances connected with the Royal visit. Everything has gone off as well as could be desired—better, much better, than even the most sanguine could have expected. The arrangements of the authorities for the reception of Her Majesty, and for facilitating her progress to and from her Highland dwelling, did infinite credit to their judgment and good taste. Due scope was allowed for the gratification of legitimate curiosity, and a becoming display of loyalty, but nothing was permitted that could have the slightest tendency to annoy the Royal visitors, and indeed there seemed to be little or no desire to trespass in this way—the conduct of the people from first to last being truly admirable. Their enthusiasm was of the heartiest kind, but its very earnestness caused it to be exhibited in a manner neither obtrusive nor boisterous. The alacrity with which they turned out to every demonstration was not more conspicuous than the good order which they seemed to take a pride in maintaining. Her Majesty, after leaving the carriage, lingered for several minutes on the platform, looking round admiringly at the fine spectacle, and the happy faces of the assembled multitude; she spoke her *impromptu* thanks to the Provost in the kindest and most condescending manner; and after having gone to the entrance of the saloon, she returned with the Prince, and once more made a gracious obeisance to the delighted spectators.

The circumstance that the Royal party have travelled south by land, instead of availing themselves of the yacht, affords luckily no valid ground of complaint, either against the new residence or the route to it by Aberdeen. At this period of the year, when the equinoctial gales have hardly blown over, bright and calm weather cannot reasonably be expected; and the fog and foul appearance of yesterday were such as would have prevented Her Majesty from leaving any port on the East Coast. That there was no difficulty connected with our harbour, or any real danger of a storm apprehended, was proved by the fact, that the whole of the Royal squadron proceeded to sea within half an hour of Her Majesty's departure, experiencing no interruption whatever in leaving the port, and having the prospect, when out in the bay, of being likely to make a good passage.

To whatever cause it be owing—whether it be that the people here are naturally more deeply impressed with feelings of loyalty than in other places, or that, with a Scottish stubbornness, we take a greater pride in loving our Monarch (being blessed with a Monarch really worth loving), the more we hear of the spread of anti-monarchical principles abroad—we know not; but certain it is, that the earnest, subdued, yet strongly-marked spirit of devotion to the Queen that has been manifested during the visit of Her Majesty, could not easily be matched in any other district or country. And it is not, we flatter ourselves, a mere superstitious reverence for rank and show, but is based on a conviction that in the present state of society, and in an old country like ours, the form of government which it is our lot to live under is best adapted for safe and steady progress, and for securing even the utilitarian end of the greatest happiness to the greatest number.

HER MAJESTY'S DEPARTURE FROM BALMORAL.

Thursday, the day appointed for Her Majesty's departure from Balmoral, and embarkation at Aberdeen, dawned inauspiciously. The weather throughout the earlier part of the day was cold, dull, and foggy. Shortly after twelve o'clock, however, the face of the sky cleared and brightened up, and throughout the remainder of the day it continued to be fair and agreeable.

Her Majesty and suite left Balmoral about two o'clock—an event which was signalled by the lowering of the Royal standard, which had floated over the castle during Her Majesty's stay.

BALLATER.

At three o'clock Her Majesty arrived in Ballater, where she changed horses. While this operation was going on, Her Majesty stood up in the Royal carriage and looked about, apparently much pleased with the cordial reception with which she was met.

ABOYNE.

The Royal *cortège* again started off at a brisk pace, and entered Aboyne five minutes before four, when she again changed horses. The reception at Aboyne was enthusiastic, and highly creditable. On a magnificent triumphal arch in front of the Huntly Arms, were

the words, "Haste you back." Her Majesty and Prince Albert conversed with the Marquis of Huntly and the Earl of Aboyne. The Royal *cortège* then started for

BANCHORY.

The demonstrations of loyalty on the occasion of Her Majesty's homeward progress through Upper Banchory were highly creditable to the inhabitants of the district, and such as could not fail to attract the special notice of the Royal party. The fine arch at the porter's lodge of Inchomarlo, the seat of Duncan Davidson, Esquire, was most splendidly re-decorated, and, if possible, presented even a more imposing appearance than when Her Majesty passed through it on her way to Balmoral. On one side of the arch stood Charles M'Donald, piper to Captain Forbes, and on the other, Donald M'Donald, Hough of Sluie, both in full Highland costume, and the latter bearing in his hand the same claymore which his grandfather, James Farquharson of Auchindrine, standard-bearer to Colonel Farquharson of Balmoral, wielded at the battles of Falkirk and Cul-loden. On the Stamp Office was displayed a magnificent transparency fringed with dahlias, surmounted by a bouquet of flowers, and having a beautiful figure of a crown at each of the two upper corners, with the initials of Victoria and Albert intervened, and the following motto below—

"More beloved than ever,
 Hasten ye back to your home of the heather."

The heather arch at the east end of the village was highly re-ornamented with a profusion of variegated flowers, and surmounted by a crown of dahlias, even more splendid than the last. Some idea of its magnificence and splendour may be formed, when we mention that one hundred and two dozen of dahlias, with a numberless variety of China asters and other flowers, were employed in its formation; below the crown, and in most elegant letters, were painted in separate lines the words, "Fair fa ye," and "Welcome back again;" in addition to these appendages, four large flags floated above the arch. During the interval of changing horses, the Misses Ramsay of Banchory Lodge, stepped forward to Her Majesty's carriage and presented the Royal children with beautiful bouquets of flowers. Her Majesty got the first hint of the illuminations at Pitfodels, where a transparency, tastefully decorated with evergreens, and surmounted by the British flag, was placed at the entrance to Balnagarth. The transparency bore as follows:—"Peace gae wi' ye, an' haste ye back to Deeside." At this point some of the signal rockets, announcing Her Majesty's approach to the City, were fired off.

PREPARATIONS AT ABERDEEN.

The preparations for Her Majesty's reception in this City, were of a similar description to those made on the occasion of Her arrival. The entire route through the City was lined by the Honorary Guard of Citizens, with the exception of Marischal Street, which was guarded by the enrolled Pensioners. Constables were also stationed at intervals along the line of the Royal progress. The Coast Guard as formerly, were stationed on Union Bridge. A squad of Shore-porters was stationed at Holburn, and another at the foot of Marischal Street. The line was formed and cleared by six o'clock, all passage of horses, carts and carriages, having been prevented from five o'clock, till after the passage of Her Majesty through the City. The light which shone from the windows and gas devices made the streets, during the whole night, as clear as if it had been mid-day, and greatly assisted in the preservation of order.

About five o'clock, Lord Aberdeen arrived express from Balmoral, and informed the civic authorities, that it was Her Majesty's wish to pass through the city, and embark on board the yacht with the least possible delay; and that it would be desirable that the Magistrates should instead of proceeding to Holburn, drive to the triumphal arch, and there be in attendance to receive Her Majesty on her arrival. The idea of a procession was immediately given up, and on the appearance of the first carriage of the Royal *cortège*, the Magistrates drove through the city and down to the landing place, there to await Her Majesty's arrival.

The grand stand itself presented a very imposing appearance. It had been beautifully renovated by fresh supplies of evergreens, and was crowded by a brilliant array of beauty and fashion.

In front of the grand stand, a detachment of the 93d Highlanders were drawn up—the blaze of gas in their rear shewing them off to great advantage. Their nodding plumes, glittering bayonets, and thoroughly martial aspect, added much to the beauty of the scene.

Many of the vessels in the harbour presented a very gay appearance from the number of lamps which were suspended from their yard-arms. The new barque Barmoral, which lay immediately adjacent to the Royal yacht, and the London steamers, merit particular notice. The latter vessels remained illuminated during the whole night.

The busking at the Grand Stand was beautifully executed by Messrs. John and James Mitchell, late gardeners, upon whose good taste their work here, and elsewhere, reflected much credit.

THE ILLUMINATION.

The illumination was one of the most spirited affairs we have ever seen. No expense or labour was spared to make the display one in every way worthy of the occasion. Every house in Union Street, Union Place, Castle Street, Marischal Street, and Regent Quay, was a complete blaze of light from top to bottom. One or two houses, where sickness existed, were the only exceptions. As might have been expected, the exhibition attracted vast crowds of spectators, who continued to perambulate Union Street from six